

**BREATHER FILTER CARTRIDGE**  
**FOR DATA STORAGE DEVICES**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5           A breather filter cartridge in a data storage device contains a filtration media, such as  
packed granular carbon, in a chamber. The cartridge incorporates a gas diffusion path that  
traverses through the breather filter casing, interfacing with the chamber along a tubular sidewall  
and allowing the thickness of the filter top end to be reduced. This permits additional filter media  
to be packed into the same breather filter height. Alternatively, the same amount of filtration  
10   media can accordingly be packed into a thinner breather filter. The top end may also include an  
outward extending flange, with the chamber extending completely through the flange. A thin  
film seals the media above the flange, allowing for even more filter media to be packed into a  
breather filter of identical height.